The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

March 2013 **Volume 9, Issue 3**

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From the Editor

Happy Saint Patrick's Day to all of you Irishmen, and to the rest of you who wish you were!

We've just wrapped up the club's participation in the annual Mike and Key Hamfest. Hat's off to the members of the RCT Property Management Team, the W7OS Museum Team, and the club officers and directors for their efforts in identifying, locating, and all other logistical functions that permitted a wide inventory of surplus items to be sold at the event. I haven't yet seen the figures for the revenues, but I guarantee that we hauled a lot less stuff home on Saturday afternoon than we loaded up on Friday morning.

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The 2013 Field Day is fast approaching - only about 3 more months to go. Al N7OMS, who has been the leadership for Field Day for the past several years has decided to take a break and pass the torch. We need someone or sometwo to step up to the plate and act as the coordinator for the event this year. There will be lots of hands to help, but if you would like to assist the club with your willingness to be the chairman of the event, please contact any club officer or director. If there are no volunteers, it is conceivable that there will be no Field Day this year.!

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Great progress being made on the new tower installation project. The base is in and nearly ready for the erection of the mast. See the pictures beginning on Page 8 to get a flavor of the sweat and concrete that was poured into the project.

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Best to everyone, and please remember to send in your 2013 dues if you haven't yet.. The deadline is the end of March, and if they are not received by then, you will miss the cutoff to be included in the membership handbook.

-73 - W7MWF Mike

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Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes

6 February 2013

The 6 February 2013 Radio Club of Tacoma Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma. Vice President WY7V called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President	Casey Hicks WY7V
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Treasurer	Bob Purdom AD7LJ
Board Member	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board Member	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Member	James Mendenhall KE6WHN
Board Member	Glen Galati KA7BOJ
Board Member	Nick Winter K7MO

There were 11 names on the Board attendance roster

ARRL Scholarship Program: Jim Fenstermaker K9JF ARRL Northwest Division Director presented an informative presentation on the ARRL, The ARRL Foundation, and the Northwest Division's scholarship programs, and solicited our Club support for this effort. Mr. Fenstermaker offered this presentation to the general membership at a future date if desired, but recommended early coordination due to a busy schedule.

Transfer of the Chair: At this point in the meeting, the Vice President was not feeling well, and the Secretary, Larry KD4VOM assumed the meeting Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Minutes:

The minutes of the 2 January 2013 Board meeting, as coordinated and corrected, were approved without objection.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Roy Myers WA7UZL, William Watson W7BYH, John Nelson NJ0HN and Jack Moore WA7ENB were reported as Silent Keys

SECRETARY'S REPORT: KD4VOM reports the following correspondence;

Utility and Phone Bills
Bank Statements
Salmon Run Pledges
Newsletters
Property Insurance renewal
Equipment Insurance renewal
Liability Insurance renewal
Letter from SOTA Presenters
Letter from TACID Director
QSL Cards

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob AD7LJ presented the January Financial Summary report. A copy is attached to the original copy of these minutes.

N7OMS relayed a request from Rich KR7W to reimburse his purchase of Powerpoles and cables for Club installation in the amount of $ 40.00, and for Bob K7MXE for a triplexer and cables in the amount of $ 70.00.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to provide reimbursement upon submission of the usual Club Income and Expense Voucher.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Larry KD4VOM

Membership renewal is underway. We currently have around 45 Lifetime/Honorary members, and to date around 150 members have renewed their membership.

Scholarship Research Project: Mike Finnie W7MWF

Mike invited and arranged for the Northwest Division Director's presentation tonight, and has ARRL scholarship information available.

RCT Information Technology Committee: – Randy Myers WB4SBP

Randy provided a IT Committee update report.

Randy reported on backup dock installation and other maintenance procedures

Randy reported on ongoing research into this project, and expects to present an update at the next Board meeting.

A copy of the IT report is attached to the original copy of these minutes.

Museum: Rich Patrick KR7W: Although not present, Rich had previously circulated lists of additional items declared no longer needed by the Museum, and to be turned over to the Property Management Team for action. The updated list includes purging of several keys now in the Museum inventory.

(continued on Page 3)

Property Management:

IRT, PayPal and EBay Accounts: The Property Manager has requested that these accounts be transferred to the Property Management Team which is responsible for club property acquisition and disposition.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to transfer management of the Club's IRT bank account, Pay Pal and EBay activities to include the related Debit Card to the Property Management Team.

Recently Donated 440 Repeater: Larry KD4VOM reported for the Roy Area Communications Network that they no longer have any interest in the 440 repeater

A motion was made, seconded and passed to turn the 440 repeater over to the Property Management Team for their action.

Property Disposition: Bruce WE7P presented the previously circulated property disposition list for Board Approval.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to authorize the disposition of these listed items, except the Butternut antenna, and Ameritron 80 A Linear Amplifier which will be retained for Club use.

Copies of the equipment disposition lists are attached to the original copy of these minutes.

Property Disposition – Club member options: Several members of the Board raised the issue of providing Club Members an opportunity to purchase items from the disposition list before the gear is offered to the public.

The Property Management Team has managed this in the past through the Saturday Mini Swapmeet, and Club Auction.

Club members must be made aware of the items for disposition and method of sale, e.g. auction/Saturday Mini Swapmeet

HF and Repeater Operations:

Nick K7MO

Nick is seeking a vertical 2 meter/440 meter antenna to be used for remote control of the Club's repeaters.

Nick asked retention of the controller in the recently donated 440 repeater.

There is no change in the status of the Club's repeater status. The Crawford Mountain 147.38 repeater remains down.

Nick proposed consideration of an automatic antenna switching system from Array Solutions, which will run around $1,200 plus $165 control box for each supported Transceiver system.

Facilities Management: Bruce Hanson WE7P

Bruce expects to present a facilities planning update at the next Board Meeting.

Training:

Next Technician Class has not yet been announced, but conducting a session in Gig Harbor is under consideration

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Hamfest:

RCT Hamfests: Larry KD4VOM has revised the RCT notice that we are unable to host a 2013 Hamfest this year due to construction at the Bethel School site and other issues. Notice has been provided to Mike and Key for their annual information booklet, and to Lynn Burlingame N7CFO who maintains a regional Hamfest and Conventions website

2012 Bethel Facility Bill:

The Bethel facility bill has not yet been received. The Club Treasurer has been authorized to transfer Hamfest Funds as required.

Emergency Operations Plan: KD4VOM

Larry Watson KD4VOM reports that workload and other factors continue to delay getting the Club's Em-Comm plan underway.

Salmon Run:

Larry KD4VOM reported all but one Salmon Run Pledges have been received. This year's Salmon Run pledge drive has generated $3,145.00 for Club operations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FYBO/Winter Field Day: Rich KR7W has retired as coordinator for the Club's FYBO/Winter Field Day. Thanks to Rich KR7W, Chuck AC7QN and all the others that have contributed to the last ten years of FYBO Frosty Fun

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

RCT General Meeting Notes

13 February 2013 Meeting Highlights

The 13 February General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . Vice President Casey WY7V called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President	Gary McAdams WG7X
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Treasurer	Bob Purdom AD7LJ
Board	James Mendenhall KE6WHN

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 34 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by President Gary WG7X

INTRODUCTIONS: Guest and Self introductions were completed...There were several visitors, new members and new calls

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:
Mike W7XTZ reported on John Nelson, a blind ham, who still smiles when he can get to his radio gear and hear CW

Correspondence:

Utility bills
Bank Statements
Newsletters
QSL Cards
TACID Thank You
Insurance Policy Renewals
Membership Renewals

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Treasurer: The Field Day donation pig was circulated, the Club financial report can be found on the club website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Training: The next Technician's Class is scheduled for March 9/10.

VE Report: Larry KD4VOM Presented two reports from John Clarke, AC7WW

Tuesday, February 12th your VE Team hosted 13 candidates at the clubhouse. Twenty-seven elements were graded with fifteen being passed. Five new Technician class operators joined the Amateur Service. Two candidates passed element two and three to become General Class. Five candidates passed element three to become General Class. One candidate with an expired license passed element two and was grandfathered to General Class. One of the candidates that became a General was a twelve year old young lady from Eastern Washington.

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort.

Steve, AD7VL	Leonard, KA7NWF
Rich, KK7VH	Joe, K7ZG
Stephen, AD7AB	

The next monthly scheduled testing session will be Tuesday March 12th, 2013.

Sunday evening, January 27th the Radio Club of Tacoma VE Team traveled to Camp Murray to conduct a special testing session for twenty four candidates. This testing session followed a weekend Technician class conducted by Stephen, AD7AB and Mike, AD7TH. Forty two elements were graded with nineteen being passed. There were 19 students in the class and all but one obtained a license. Eighteen new Technicians joined the Amateur Service, one candidate upgraded to General Class and four candidates failed to upgrade.
Connie, John's XYL, did an outstanding job of collecting monies and assisting with the paper work.
Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort.

Joe, W7RQ	Steve, AD7VL
Dale, N3MO	Jan, K7HTU
Micah, KF7GKZ	Rich, KK7VH
Stephen, AD7AB	Bob, AD7LJ
Mike, AD7TH	

RCT General Meeting Notes

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Membership: Renewals were due 1 January, and will be delinquent 31 March. Those who have not renewed by then will not be in the annual Club Membership Roster Book/

Open House Hosts Sought: The Club is soliciting members to serve as Open House Hosts on Saturdays at the Clubhouse. Contact the Secretary if interested. Several second Saturdays are open, check the website for a current schedule.

FYBO: This year's "Freeze Your Buns Off" Winter QRP Field Day was staged at Pt. Defiance Owen Beach on Saturday February 2nd. Randy W4SBP, Mike W7WMF, Jim K7SSS, Bob KE7WPK, Bob AD7WU, Worth W7WG joined Rich KR7W and several others to challenge the weather.

Mike and Key: The annual Mike and Key Hamfest is coming up on March 9th. The Club is seeking volunteers to help cover the Club's Information and Promotion Table. Our Property Management Team will also be present selling excess club gear.

PRESENTATION: Col Terry LaRue, First lieutenant Jay Burnett and Command Sergeant Major Dan Olsen of the Washington State Guard attended tonight's meeting to recognize and thank those who provided Technician Training and Volunteer Testing last month at Camp Murray. The State Guard is implementing an Emergency Operations initiative and plans to coordinate activities with other area Emergency Operations Centers.

PROGRAM: Hamfest Dayton, 2009, "The Unauthorized Tour"

SHOW AND TELL: Bill AD7QI reported on and demonstrated the blinking neon light contraption which he claims has been working non-stop since 2009, but appears near the end of its life as the battery power drops close to the minimum voltage (80 volts) required by the bulbs.

HINTS AND KINKS: None reported

TUNING AND TRAFFIC: Mike K7STO reports several 17 meter contacts with Maury W7OT who is currently in Mazatlan, Mexico. Mike W7XTZ also reported a contact with KC7ZGQ who has been reposted to Texas.

DOOR PRIZES: A soldering iron was picked up by Ollie, AD7CC, and Randy WB7SBP an antenna lip mount.

RAFFLE PRIZE: A Microphone was won by Worth W7WG

The Meeting was adjourned at: 08:45 pm

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27 February 2013 HIGHLIGHTS

The 27 February General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . Secretary Larry Watson KD4VOM called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board	James Mendenhall KE6WHN
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board	Glen Galati KA7BOJ

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 37 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by Secretary Larry KD4VOM

INTRODUCTIONS: Guest and Self introductions were completed…

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: None reported

Correspondence:

Utility bills
Bank Statements
Newsletters
QSL Cards
Membership Renewals
Electric Radio.

Treasurer: The Field Day donation pig was circulated, the Club financial report can be found on the club website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Training: The next Technician's Class is scheduled for March 9/10.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Membership: Renewals were due 1 January, and will be delinquent 31 March. Those who have not renewed by then will not be in the annual Club Membership Roster Book/

RCT General Meeting Notes

Open House Hosts Sought: The Club is soliciting members to serve as Open House Hosts on Saturdays at the Clubhouse. Contact the Secretary if interested. Several second Saturdays are open, check the website for a current schedule

Mike and Key: The annual Mike and Key Hamfest is coming up on March 9th. Drop by and help cover the Club's Information and Promotion Table. Our Property Management Team will also be present selling excess club gear.

Rohn Tower Sections: Mike K7STO knows of some ten foot sections available in the Moses Lake area.

Field Day: All N7OMS reminded all that Field Day Planning should begin soon. Al will not be heading the Field Day up this year and we need several folks to step up and begin the planning process soon. There are plenty of experienced Field Day managers to help whomever wants to head up this year's Field Day exercise.

DX Contest: Bill K7IJ reminded all of this weekend's SSB DX contest, and the opportunity to gather new contacts…

PROGRAM: Video, "Building a 10 Meter Ground Plane Homebrew Antenna

HINTS AND KINKS: None reported

TUNING AND TRAFFIC: There were several traffic and contact reports

DOOR PRIZES: A soldering iron was picked up by Keith, KB7NVW, and a meter was taken home by Joe KE7PAB

RAFFLE PRIZE: A Headphone was won by Ollie AD7CC

The RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA needs your donations…

DONATIONS PLAY A BIG PART IN FUNDING THE OPERATION OF RCT. IF YOU HAVE UNWANTED OR UNNEEDED AMATEUR RADIO OR RELATED EQUIPMENT. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING IT TO THE CLUB

??? Who is this mystery Ham ???

Hint 1—His hair color is slightly more grey.
Hint 2—First licensed in the late 1950s with the call KN7JAL

Email your guess to the Bark Editor and become famous.

W7dk-news@earthlink.net

W7DK at the 2013 Mike & Key Hamfest - March 9, 2013

To the left, Frank AC7JY and Bruce WE7P on Friday morning diligently loading items to be sold at the M&K Hamfest on Saturday. They, plus a few others, were able to make a big dent in the items stored in the garage. Besides loading and transporting the equipment, they sat in line until 2pm to get into the fairgrounds, unload, and set up the W7DK tables.

In the photo to the right, part of the crew that manned the battle station on Saturday. From left to right, Al N7OMS, Chuck AC7QN Mike W7XTZ, Mike W7MWF, and James KE6WHN. Not pictured is team leader Frank AC7JY. Others, including RCT President Gary WG7X pitched in and gave us some relief from time to time. Many other club members stopped by the sales table, and the Info Booth upstairs being manned in part by Larry KD4VOM and Steve AD7VL.

Photos courtesy Chuck AC7QN

Around the Clubhouse
Projects and Progress

This month's photo essay highlights the first phase of the installation of the new 6 Meter+ mast being installed on the north side of the clubhouse. On a couple of balmy February days, a cadre of club members dug a 4x4x4 foot hole, rigged the reinforcing framework, and then filled the big ol' hole with several yards of redi-mixed concrete. After a month of curing, the mast should be installed and configured for future use.

Above—excitement watching the concrete dry
Right—The 'new' 6 Meter beam being delivered
Photos courtesy Bob K7MXE, Mike W7MWF and Randy WB4SPB

A Challenge to RCT from George KK7FM

George Noble gave us a little challenge that I am submitting to the Bark:
Submitted by Roger WA7ANJ, Pictures by Lucy KF7HQL

While visiting Des Moines, Iowa, recently, I had lunch with George, KK7FM, pictured here. He mentioned his pending retirement soon and spoke of a possible product or invention that may require skills that he has acquired during his professional life working with tiny things.

He asked me to "take a Test": What is this little gizmo? What does it do. How many circuits does it have? Roger successfully answered the question, can you? Take a look at the pictured "gizmo".

George suggested a contest for those interested in new technology...

If you know any of the answers, e-mail George at: ngsnoble@gmail.com

Editors Note: While working the 20 Meter Phone Station at the 2012 RCT Field Day, I had the pleasure of making a contact with George KK7FM. He sent his regards to the club. Everyone I mentioned this to was pleased to hear of his greeting, and said he is sorely missed at W7DK.

George still maintains his membership in the RCT, although he is now living in Des Moines, Iowa.

Operator's Wallpaper

If you have any special, or cool, or unique, or simply beautiful QSL cards in your collection that you'd like to share, please scan (high resolution is preferred) and email to the Bark Editor w7dk-news@earthlink.net.

In this month's issue of The Logger's Bark we're featuring another couple ofc ards from the collection of RCT Member Karl K7KHJ. See Karl's notes below regarding these QSOs

The attached cards are 2 of a set of three from the Route 66 on the air. This contest was going on at the same time as the Puyallup Fair where James, KE6WHN, and myself were working a Thursday Night at the Fair Booth this year for the club when we came across this contest on the HF. We each made the contacts. I sent in for the QSL Cards and received the attached. The 3 cards would make one large picture. Thank goodness the one that we could not reach was not the middle card of the three. The second picture is the backside of one of the QSL Cards. It is also unique in layout and design.

The Radio Club of Tacoma's
Logger's Bark

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Club Officers

President: Gary McAdams WG7X 253-984-0868 email to wg7x @ w7dk.org
Vice Pres: Casey Hicks WY7V email to wy7v @ w7dk.org
Secretary: Larry Watson KD4VOM email to kd4vom @ w7dk.org
Treasurer: Bob Purdom AD7LJ email to ad7lj @ w7dk.org

5 Board Members (listed in no particular order)

Al Ferguson, N7OMS email to n7oms @ w7dk.org
James Mendenhall KE6WHN email to ke6whn @ w7dk.org
Glen Galati KA7BOJ email to ka7boj @ w7dk.org
Nick Winter K7MO email to k7mo @ w7dk.org
Bruce Hanson WE7P email to we7p @ w7dk.org

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $30 per calendar year. $25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

Remember - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website w7dk.org. Be sure to enroll as a member to see all the info.

The Loggers Bark
Radio Club of Tacoma
PO Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

To RCT Member:

Upcoming RCT Events

CLUB MEETINGS: Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting: First Wednesday of the month at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome to attend .

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz .